J.J. ABRAMS

ALEX KURTZMAN & ROBERTO ORCI

PRESENT

FRINGE™

#6 OF 6
AUG 09

WILDSTORM

DISPALTRO • KATSNELSON
DOBLE • MANDRAKE

DIRECT SALES

00611

7 61941 27743 1

$2.99US WILDSTORM.COM

"FOR DAYS I'VE LISTENED PATIENTLY TO YOUR STORIES...
"...HOW SCIENTISTS' HEADS WERE BEING KEPT ALIVE IN JARS...
"...HOW YOU AND WILLIAM BELL SOMEHOW *TELEPORTED* OUT OF ALASKA...
"...HOW YOU TRAVELED BACK IN TIME...TO NAZI GERMANY...
"...WHERE YOU SENT HITLER TO THE MESOZOIC ERA TO BE EATEN BY DINOSAURS.
"A LITTLE ICING ON THE CAKE.
SO WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, DR. BISHOP, IS WHY HAVE YOU BEEN LYING TO ME?

THE VISITOR

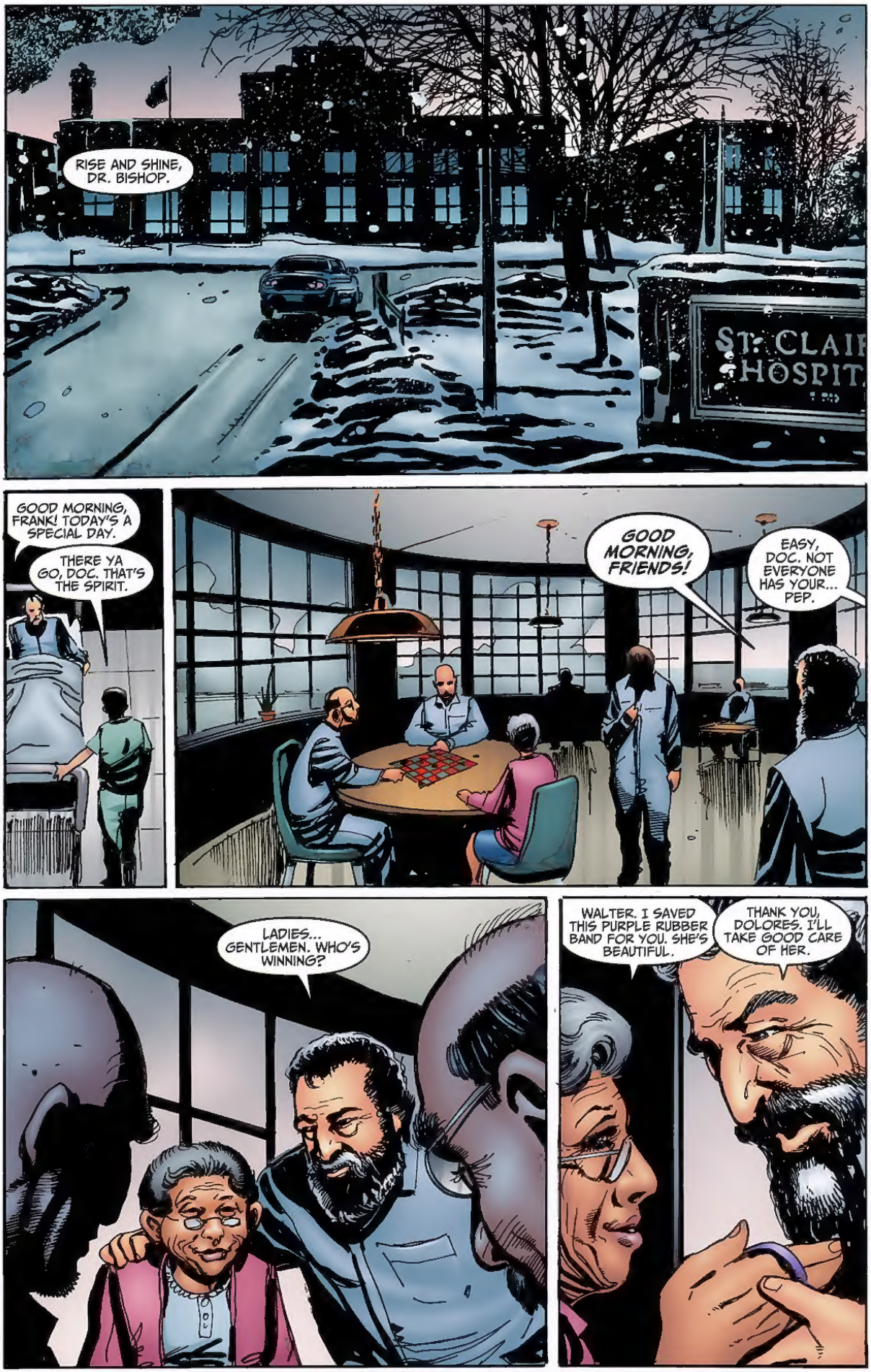
WRITERS: DANIELLE DISPALTRO & JUSTIN DOBLE & ALEX KATSNELSON
ARTIST: TOM MANDRAKE
COLORIST: WILDSTORM FX
LETTERER: WES ABBOTT
ASSISTANT EDITOR: KRISTY QUINN
EDITORS: BEN ABERNATHY & HANK KANALZ
SPECIAL THANKS TO JEFF PINKNER & J.H. WYMAN

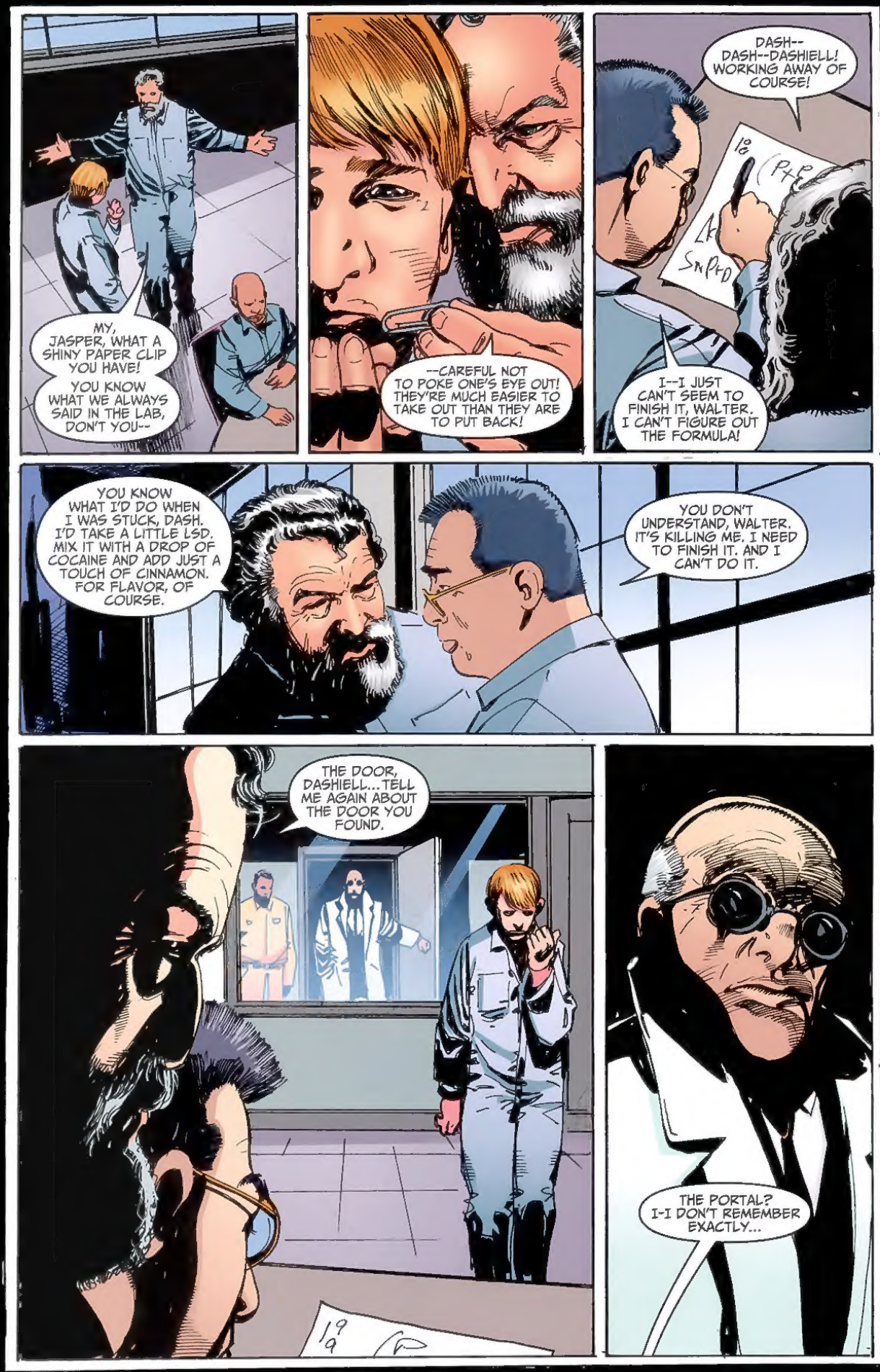
WHILE PARTS OF YOUR STORY ARE VERIFIABLE...A DR. MATHESON DID INDEED GO MISSING AND A LEVI BERGER DID SURVIVE THE WAR. THERE ARE *INCONSISTENCIES.*
THOSE SCIENTISTS YOU MENTIONED--SAFAVI, RUTHCHILD, CAVYAN--THEY WERE *JANITORS* AT HARVARD.
YOU SAY TOMATOES, I SAY *TOMATOES.*
LET ME BE CLEAR, DOCTOR. I'M NOT HERE TO PLAY GAMES. YOU HAVE INFORMATION I NEED. AND THE SOONER YOU COME CLEAN, THE BETTER IT WILL BE FOR BOTH OF US.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT MORE I CAN DO. I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH...
AGGGHHH!
BZZZZZ
THEN WHY IS YOUR BODY TELLING MY POLYGRAPH OTHERWISE?
EXCUSE ME, GENTLEMEN.
DR. SUMNER?
IT'S ALMOST SIX O'CLOCK. VISITING HOURS ARE OVER.
SAVED BY THE BELL, DOCTOR. DON'T THINK YOU'RE OFF THE HOOK YET.

DOCTOR, WAIT!
HOW MUCH LONGER IS THE FBI GOING TO NEED WALTER FOR ITS INVESTIGATION?
HOPEFULLY WE'LL GET WHAT WE NEED SOON ENOUGH.
I'M CONCERNED ABOUT HIS WELL-BEING. WALTER'S IN A VERY FRAGILE STATE.
WHAT EXACTLY IS IT THAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
I'M SORRY. THAT'S CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, DOCTOR.
I'M AFRAID YOU DON'T HAVE THE CLEARANCE.
AND, DOCTOR...
...DON'T EVER INTERRUPT MY SESSIONS AGAIN.

EASY DOES IT.
THANK YOU, FRANK. IT--IS FRANK, RIGHT?
LAST TIME I CHECKED.
THIS PLACE...THEIR CHOICE OF THERAPIES...HAVE CON--CONSEQUENCES.
I KNOW, WALTER. THINGS'LL LOOK BETTER IN THE MORNING. SLEEP TIGHT NOW.
...DON'T LET THE BED-BUGS BITE...

"EVENING, WALTER."
"NO...NOT AGAIN..."
I'M HERE BECAUSE YOU NEED ME, WALTER.
YOUR VISITOR IS A VERY DANGEROUS MAN. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE MAY YOU GIVE HIM WHAT HE'S LOOKING FOR.
I--I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN ENDURE MUCH MORE. HE USES THIS-- DEVICE...
THEN DRAW UPON YOUR FACULTIES, WALTER. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU ESCAPE.
BUT HOW?!
FIND IT WITHIN YOURSELF... FORMULATE...
...A PLAN...

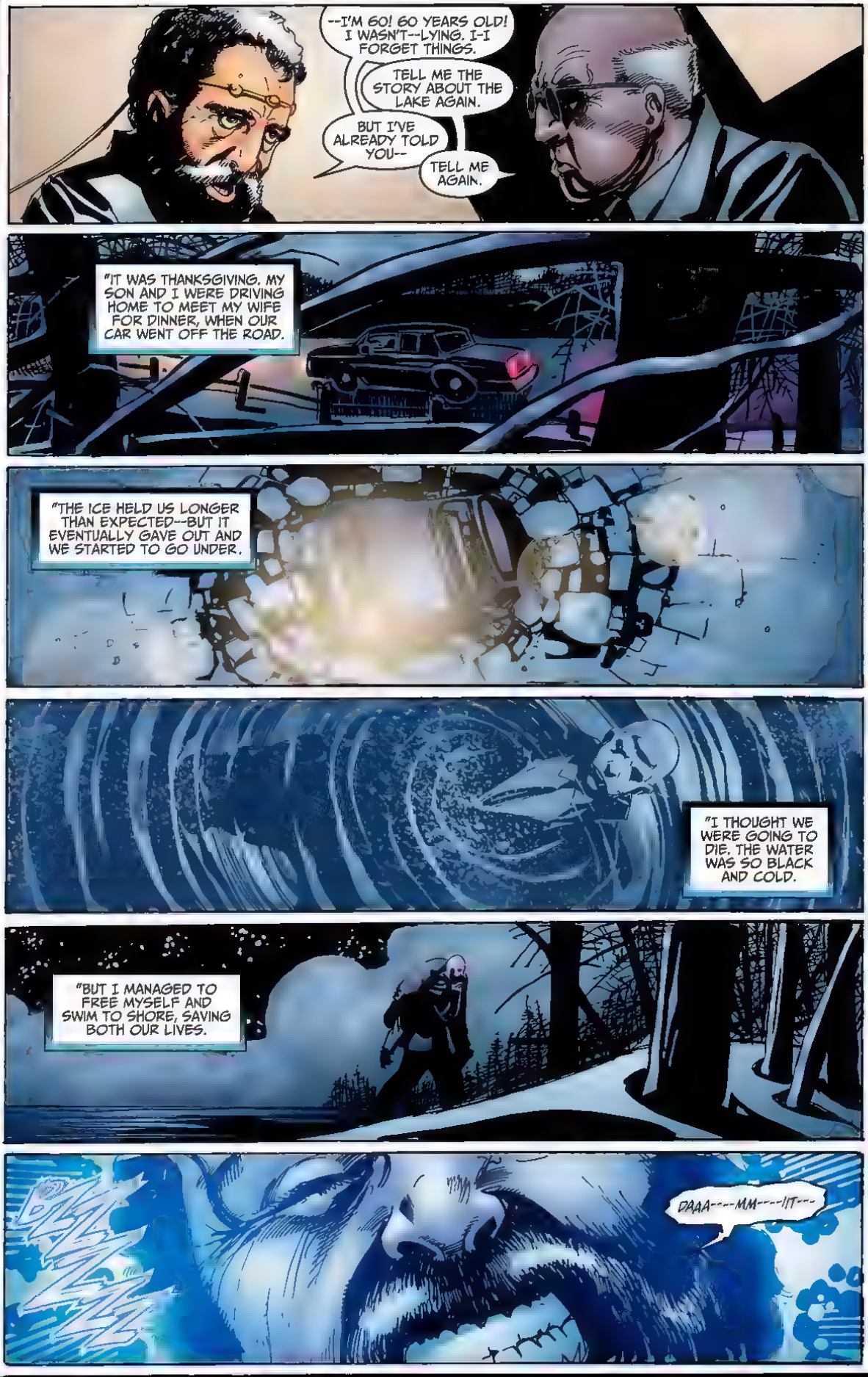

RISE AND SHINE, DR. BISHOP.
ST. CLAI
HOSPIT
GOOD MORNING, FRANK! TODAY'S A SPECIAL DAY.
THERE YA GO, DOC. THAT'S THE SPIRIT.
GOOD MORNING, FRIENDS!
EASY, DOC. NOT EVERYONE HAS YOUR... PEP.
LADIES... GENTLEMEN. WHO'S WINNING?
WALTER. I SAVED THIS PURPLE RUBBER BAND FOR YOU. SHE'S BEAUTIFUL.
THANK YOU, DOLORES. I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.


MY, JASPER, WHAT A SHINY PAPER CLIP YOU HAVE!
YOU KNOW WHAT WE ALWAYS SAID IN THE LAB, DON'T YOU--
--CAREFUL NOT TO POKE ONE'S EYE OUT! THEY'RE MUCH EASIER TO TAKE OUT THAN THEY ARE TO PUT BACK!
DASH-- DASH--DASHIELL! WORKING AWAY OF COURSE!
I--I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO FINISH IT, WALTER. I CAN'T FIGURE OUT THE FORMULA!
YOU KNOW WHAT I'D DO WHEN I WAS STUCK, DASH. I'D TAKE A LITTLE LSD. MIX IT WITH A DROP OF COCAINE AND ADD JUST A TOUCH OF CINNAMON. FOR FLAVOR, OF COURSE.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, WALTER. IT'S KILLING ME. I NEED TO FINISH IT. AND I CAN'T DO IT.
THE DOOR, DASHIELL... TELL ME AGAIN ABOUT THE DOOR YOU FOUND.
THE PORTAL? I-I DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY...

NONSENSE, DASHIELL! TELL ME WHERE IT IS. I NEED IT TO ESCAPE!
I-I THINK IT'S IN THE BASEMENT. THERE WAS A LIGHT...AT THE END OF A TUNNEL...
LINE UP, EVERYONE--TIME FOR MORNIN' MEDS!
DR. KIM! DR. BISHOP! YOU GUYS ALL RIGHT?
EVERYTHING IS PERFECTLY FINE, FRANK. VERY POLITE OF YOU TO ASK.
NO CHEEKING NOW, DOCTOR.
I WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT.
GULP
AHHHHHHHHHH

THANKS, DOC.
NO, FRANK...
...THANK YOU.
MY, ESTELLE! MAY I SAY YOU LOOK RAVISHING TODAY!
RUFF-RUFF
C'MON, DR. BISHOP...YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME.
YOU KNOW, ESTELLE, THIS DOG REMINDS ME A GREAT DEAL OF MY OWN DOG, RUFUS. I MISS HIM VERY MUCH.
WELL, FEEL FREE TO PET HECTOR WHENEVER YOU'D LIKE. HE LOVES THE ATTENTION.
C'MON, DOC--WE'RE RUNNING LATE TO THERAPY
SIGN OUT
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DR. BISHOP HOPEFULLY TODAY WILL PROVE MORE... PRODUCTIVE.
...THAT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU MEAN BY PRODUCTIVE

FOR THE RECORD. DR. WALTER BISHOP-- SESSION 12.
KLIK
WALTER, LET ME REMIND YOU--I WILL ASK YOU A SERIES OF QUESTIONS.
IF YOU TELL ME THE TRUTH, I WILL PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION. IF YOU ANSWER WITH ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE TRUTH, YOUR PHYSICAL RHYTHMS WILL CHANGE AND YOU WILL RECEIVE AN ELECTRICAL CHARGE. IS THAT CLEAR?
ABUNDANTLY.
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
DR. WALTER BISHOP.
ARE YOU A PATIENT AT ST. CLAIRE'S?
MUST WE... YES. I AM.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
I'M 59.
BZZZZ
AGHHHH!


--I'M 60! 60 YEARS OLD! I WASN'T--LYING. I-I FORGET THINGS.
TELL ME THE STORY ABOUT THE LAKE AGAIN.
BUT I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU--
TELL ME AGAIN.
"IT WAS THANKSGIVING. MY SON AND I WERE DRIVING HOME TO MEET MY WIFE FOR DINNER, WHEN OUR CAR WENT OFF THE ROAD.
"THE ICE HELD US LONGER THAN EXPECTED--BUT IT EVENTUALLY GAVE OUT AND WE STARTED TO GO UNDER.
"I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO DIE. THE WATER WAS SO BLACK AND COLD.
"BUT I MANAGED TO FREE MYSELF AND SWIM TO SHORE, SAVING BOTH OUR LIVES.
DAAA----MM----IT---
ZZZZZZ

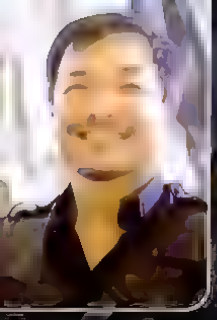
"TELL ME. DID ANYONE HELP YOU ESCAPE FROM THE VEHICLE?"
"NO."
BZZZZ
YOU'RE LYING TO ME, WALTER.
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT FROM ME?!
JUST THE TRUTH. PERHAPS A BIT MORE VOLTAGE WILL TRIGGER THE MEMORY.
WHAT ARE YOU HIDING FROM ME, DR. BISHOP?
I'M NOT HIDING ANYTH--
BZZZZ
I'M WARNING YOU, WALTER. I'M RAISING THE VOLTAGE TO FULL POWER.
ALL RIGHT... YOU WANT THE TRUTH?
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK.

I THINK YOU'RE A SPECTACULAR PERSON WHO HAS GREAT INTENTIONS AND DESERVES NOTHING BUT ICE CREAM AND COFFEE CAKE!!!!!

FINISHED SO SOON, DOCTOR?
JUST TAKING A BREATHER.
THINGS WERE GETTING A BIT HEATED IN THERE
WHAT THE--?
WALTER-- HE'S ESCAPED--
CODE BLUE. WE HAVE A SECURITY BREACH.

JUST WHAT I NEED TODAY--ANOTHER LOON ON THE LOOSE.
YOU AND ME BOTH.
I HOPE THEY CATCH HIM SOON.
DING
DING
THERE SHE IS...
...THE PORTAL...
DOCTOR, WAIT, THAT DOOR ISN'T FOR...
NO ADMITTA
AUTHORIZ
PERSONN
ONLY
...YOU...

5 MINUTES LATER
HE WAS MUMBLING... SOMETHING ABOUT A PORTAL.
...PORTAL, HUH?
LOST, DR. BISHOP?
TIME FOR PLAN B, SIR.



THE STORM FRONT

What I love about MMORPGs over regular videogames is the ability to create a super-immersive world while dealing with other real-life people. Persistency becomes a valuable trait along with a shared sense of community, which both go beyond just having fun and moving to the next level of gameplay. That's something I work to instill in the DC Universe Online game everyday and it's something Sony Entertainment's tapping into with *Free Realms*.

That's their latest free, online game aimed at all ages—and it's also a new WildStorm title for July. When young Dane [illegible] and falls to save a pixie, she's forced to return the favor and rescue him! Their luck turns even worse when a horde of creatures captures them. But we trust best-selling fantasy writer J.S. Lewis (of the Grey Griffins series) and artist Jon Buran (WORLD OF WARCRAFT) to bring him (and you!) through the adventure.

From a dark forest full of trolls, we turn to Middle America: full of corn and rednecks and...horrors. When a bored teen in a small town just off Interstate 40 checks the wrong book out of the library, *entities* are set free and the townspeople are *changed*. Then things go to hell, and anyone who tries to pass the town limits finds that there's no way out.

Aaron Williams (who is usually a funny guy; see *PS238* if you don't believe me) and Fiona Staples (who drew one of my favorite WSU books last year in SECRET HISTORY OF THE AUTHORITY: HAWKSMOOR) take a dark look at the intersection of boredom and literacy in NORTH 40. And keep a close eye on Fiona's covers—if you ever wondered how *to* show tentacles menacing the population? Well, this is how you do it.

As long as we're talking covers, keep an eye out for GEARS OF WAR #9, with interiors by regular series artist Liam Sharp and a cover by...me. Series writer Joshua Ortega and Epic Games President Mike Capps introduce a new female character here, and being a huge fan of the game, I couldn't pass up the opportunity to draw her first cover. It's the most visceral yet elegant game I've ever played and I am thrilled to be able to contribute something new to the ever-expanding mythos of *Gears*!

Jim Lee

OUT THIS MONTH!

COLLECTED EDITIONS:
OCEAN TP (NEW EDITION)
RED TP (NEW EDITION)
SLEEPER: SEASON ONE TP

For a complete list of this week's titles, sneak peeks, breaking news and more, visit us at wildstorm.com

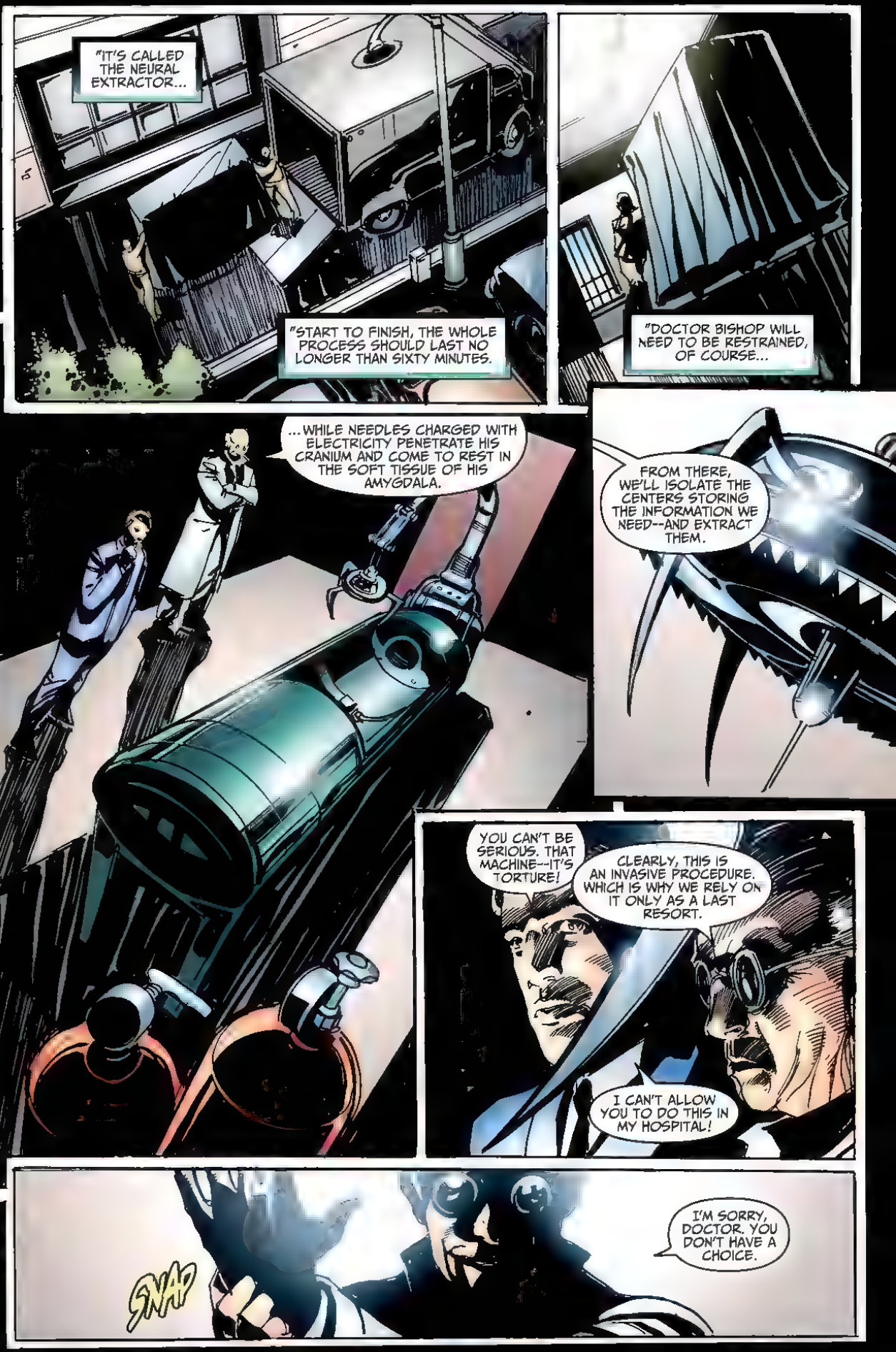
IN STORES JUNE:

ASTRO CITY
THE DARK AGE[illegible]
AUTHORITY #11
EX MACHINA #43
FREDDY vs JASON vs ASH: NIGHTMARE WARRIORS #1
FRINGE #6
GEARS OF WAR #8
GEARS OF WAR SOURCEBOOK
GEN13 #30
KILLAPALOOZA #2
MYSTERIUS #6
PROTOTYPE #3
STARCRAFT #2
STORMING PARADISE #6
WILDCATS #12
WORLD OF WARCRAFT #20

NEXT MONTH:
FREE REALMS #1

WILDSTORM

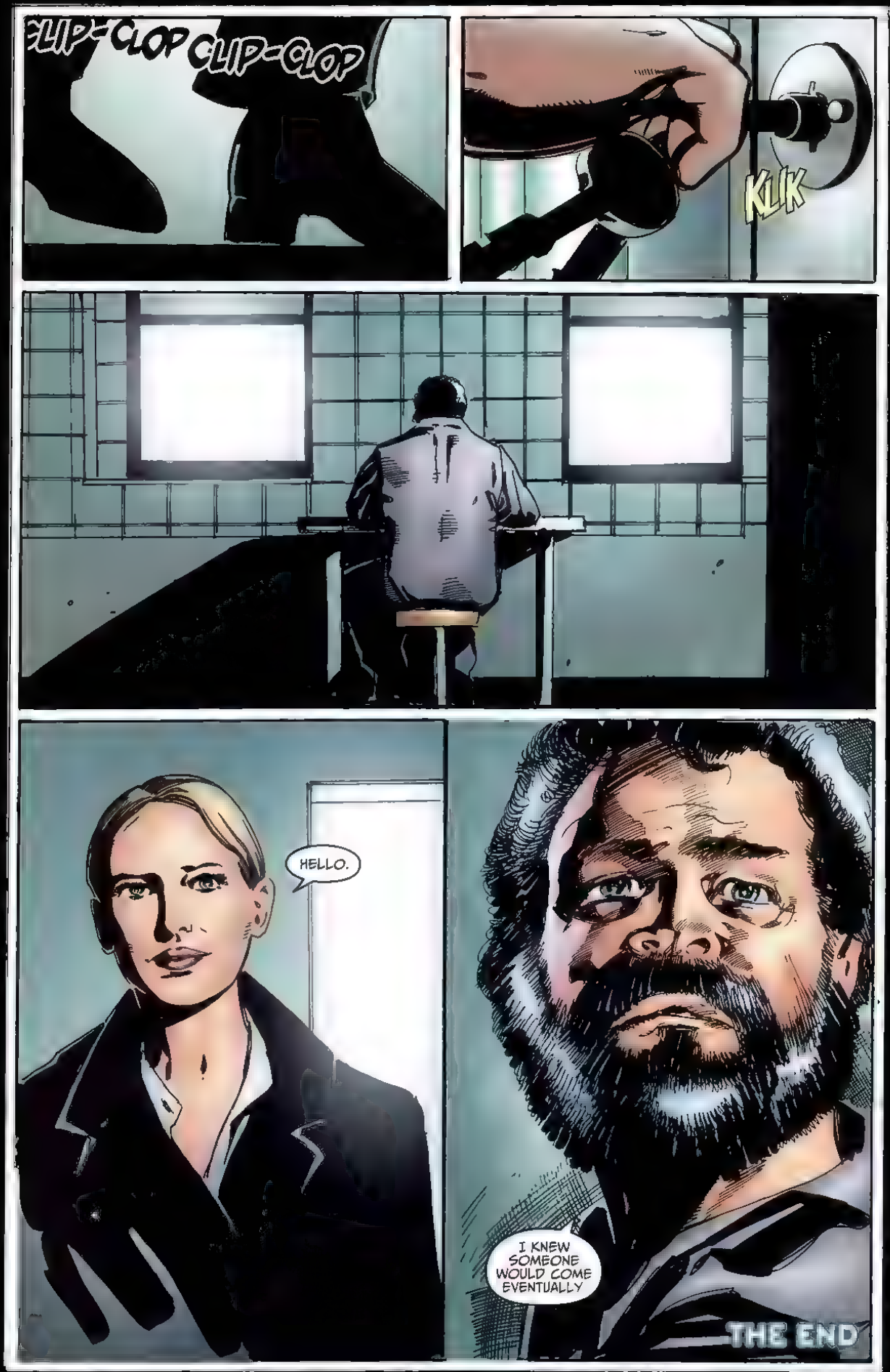
Jim Lee, Editorial Director • Paul Levitz, President & Publisher • Georg Brewer, VP–Design & DC Direct Creative
Richard Bruning, Senior VP–Creative Director • Patrick Caldon, Executive VP–Finance & Operations • Chris Caramalis, VP–Finance
John Cunningham, VP–Marketing • Terri Cunningham, VP–Managing Editor • Amy Genkins, Senior VP–Business & Legal Affairs
Alison Gill, VP–Manufacturing • David Hyde, VP–Publicity • Hank Kanalz, VP–General Manager, WildStorm
[illegible], Senior VP–Creative Affairs • Sue Pohja, VP–Book Trade Sales • Steve Rotterdam, Senior VP–Sales & Marketing
Cheryl Rubin, Senior VP–Brand Management • Alysse Soll, VP–Advertising & Custom Publishing
Jeff Trojan, VP–Business Development, DC Direct • Bob Wayne, VP–Sales


"IT'S CALLED THE NEURAL EXTRACTOR...
"START TO FINISH, THE WHOLE PROCESS SHOULD LAST NO LONGER THAN SIXTY MINUTES.
"DOCTOR BISHOP WILL NEED TO BE RESTRAINED, OF COURSE...
...WHILE NEEDLES CHARGED WITH ELECTRICITY PENETRATE HIS CRANIUM AND COME TO REST IN THE SOFT TISSUE OF HIS AMYGDALA.
FROM THERE, WE'LL ISOLATE THE CENTERS STORING THE INFORMATION WE NEED--AND EXTRACT THEM.
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. THAT MACHINE--IT'S TORTURE!
CLEARLY, THIS IS AN INVASIVE PROCEDURE. WHICH IS WHY WE RELY ON IT ONLY AS A LAST RESORT.
I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO DO THIS IN MY HOSPITAL!
SNAP
I'M SORRY, DOCTOR. YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.

NOK NOK
IS IT THAT TIME AGAIN, ALREADY?
WALTER...
CHIN UP. I'LL BE BACK SOON, DR. SUMNER.
HELLO, WALTER
LET ME EXPLAIN WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN...
RRRIIINNGG
RELAX... I'M COMING.
WAIT... WHO'S ON THEIR WAY?
BUT THE FBI IS ALREADY HERE.

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE, DR. BISHOP.
THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE.
I-I CAN'T.
I WISH I COULD TELL YOU THIS ISN'T GOING TO HURT...
...BUT I'D BE LYING.
VAN EMBURGH S THE MAN, WHO GOES TO ALL THE SHOWS...
HE STEPS NTO THE LION'S CAGE AND TELLS YOU ALL HE KNOWS...
STOP RIGHT NOW!
I NEED SOMEONE TO PLEASE ESCORT WALTER TO THE WAITING ROOM.
AND I NEED YOU TO PLACE THIS MAN IN SOLITARY IMMEDIATELY UNT L THE POLICE ARRIVE.
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DEALING WITH HERE?
A MAN WHO'S BEEN IMPERSONATING AN FBI AGENT.
AND, DOCTOR-- SORRY TO NTERRUPT.

COOL OFF IN THERE, PAL. THE POLICE WILL BE HERE TO PICK YOU UP SOON.
MY COORDINATES ARE FORTY-TWO POINT SIX-THREE-FIVE--
HE WAS HERE UNDER FALSE PRETENSES... HE WAS INTERROGATING MY PATIENT... AND HE WAS--
--RIGHT HERE...

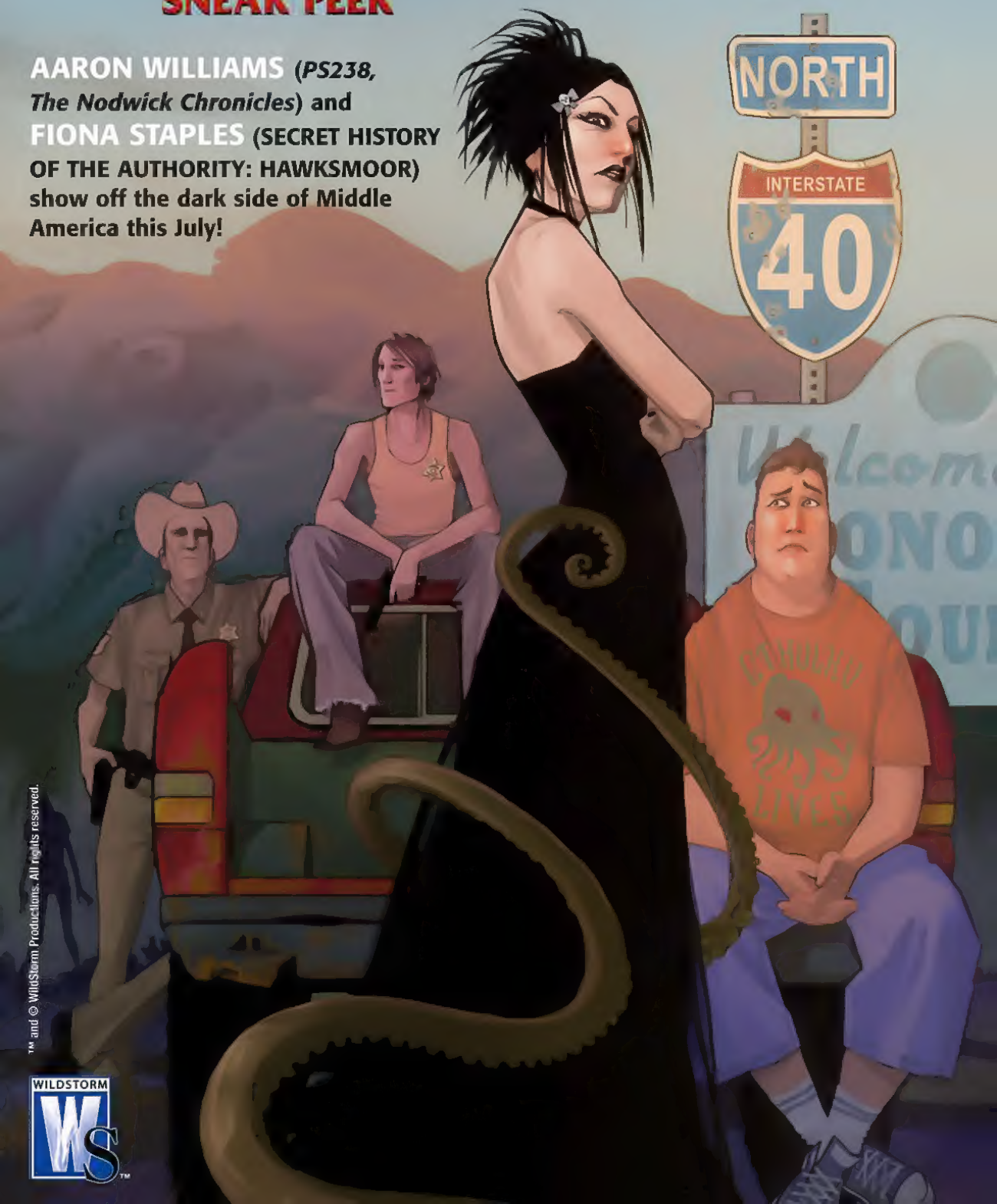

CLIP-CLOP CLIP-CLOP
KLIK
HELLO.
I KNEW SOMEONE WOULD COME EVENTUALLY
THE END

When a pair of bored teens chanted the text of a mysterious tome in the Conover County Library, all hell broke loose. Literally. Now, the citizens are trapped inside the town limits…with witches, psychics, vampires, zombies and assorted freaks of nature to keep them company.

North 40™

SNEAK PEEK

AARON WILLIAMS (*PS238, The Nodwick Chronicles*) and **FIONA STAPLES** (SECRET HISTORY OF THE AUTHORITY: HAWKSMOOR) show off the dark side of Middle America this July!



™ and © WildStorm Productions. All rights reserved.

WILDSTORM

It all started like this...
HERE IT IS! WHADD'YA THINK, LADY DY?
DYAN, ROBERT. CALL ME "LADY DY" AGAIN AND I'LL BREAK YOUR TOES.
Uh, YES, M'LADY. BUT ISN'T IT COOL LOOKING?
D&D GEEKS MAKE THINGS LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME OUT OF OLD DICTIONARIES AND EPOXY RESIN.
BUT THIS IS FROM THE "RESTRICTED" SECTION AT VIDETTE U.
Hmph. AND THE UNIVERSITY JUST LOANED IT OUT?
I FOUND IT IN THE CATALOGUE DATABASE. THEY LOAN BOOKS TO THE TOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY ALL THE TIME.
I GUESS THEY JUST FORGOT TO LABEL IT "RESTRICTED" ON THE COMPUTER.
THE WATER HERE MUST MAKE PEOPLE RETARDED. I SWEAR TO GOD IF I DON'T MOVE AWAY SOON I'M GOING TO SPROUT A BANJO OR SOMETHING...
WOULDST THOU LIKE THE HONOR OF OPENING IT?

An' that's when it all done went t' hell'n'gone.
Conover County never had much in the way o' notable hist'ry past when the North an' the South came lookin' for conscripts. Well, outside o' the odd police report. But anyhow...
Ain't a soul what remembers what gone on that night.

And there ain't a soul alive what don't remember the NEXT day...
WHAT... WHAT JUST--
WHAP
JESUS HELP ME! I ATE MY MOTHER! AND MY SISTER! AND NOW I'M BURNING. OH, JESUS SAVE MEEEEEE!

North 40 #1: *the saga begins July 8.*